

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 13, 23, 41 and 46 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 1 thru 12, 14 thru 22, 24 thru 40, 42 thru 45 and 47 thru 52, as follows:

1 1. (Currently Once Amended) A tension mask frame assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube, comprising:

3 a tension mask formed on a plate, the tension mask including a plurality of strips
4 and including a plurality of slots to separate, by a predetermined distance, corresponding
5 adjacent ones of the plurality of strips;

6 a plurality of real bridges for respectively partitioning corresponding slots of the
7 plurality of slots at a predetermined pitch interval by connecting adjacent ones of the
8 plurality of strips; [[and]]

9 a frame for supporting the tension mask, ~~whereby~~ wherein a vertical pitch of the
10 plurality of real bridges in a center portion of the tension mask is greater than a vertical
11 pitch of the plurality of real bridges in a peripheral portion of the tension mask; and

12 a plurality of dummy bridges, each dummy bridge being formed adjacent to a
13 corresponding slot partitioned by a corresponding one of the plurality of real bridges;

14 wherein a value M is obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of
15 the plurality of real bridges by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of
16 dummy bridges, and wherein the value M decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction
17 from the center portion of the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask.

1 2. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 1, ~~further comprising: a plurality of dummy bridges,~~
3 each dummy bridge extending from a strip of the plurality of strips on at least one side of
4 a corresponding slot of the plurality of slots in a direction ~~towards~~ toward a strip of the
5 plurality of strips on an opposite side of the corresponding slot ~~and being formed adjacent~~
6 ~~to the corresponding slot that is partitioned by a corresponding one of the plurality of real~~
7 ~~bridges.~~

1 3. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 2, ~~further comprised of~~ corresponding dummy
3 bridges of the plurality of dummy bridges adjacent to a corresponding slot of the plurality
4 of slots being in a staggered relation with respect to corresponding dummy bridges of the
5 plurality of dummy bridges adjacent to an opposing slot of the plurality of slots.

1 4. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 2, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask
3 ~~[[to]]~~ on one side of a center of the tension mask being symmetrical to a corresponding
4 portion of the tension mask located ~~[[to]]~~ on an opposing side of the center of the tension
5 mask.

1 5. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a cathode ray
2 tube according to claim 2, ~~further comprised of~~ opposing side portions of the tension
3 mask located with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical.

1 6. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 2, ~~further comprised of~~ each dummy bridge including
3 a pair of protrusions, each pair of protrusions respectively extending from adjacent strips
4 of the plurality of strips, whereby a corresponding pair of protrusions forming a dummy
5 bridge are disposed in facing relation to each other.

1 7. (Currently Once Amended) A tension mask frame assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube, comprising:

3 a tension mask formed on a plate, the tension mask including a plurality of strips
4 and including a plurality of slots to separate, by a predetermined distance, corresponding
5 adjacent ones of the plurality of strips;

6 a plurality of real bridges for respectively partitioning corresponding slots of the
7 plurality of slots at a predetermined pitch interval by connecting adjacent ones of the
8 plurality of strips; [[and]]

9 a frame for supporting the tension mask, whereby a vertical pitch of the plurality
10 of real bridges decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction from a center portion of the
11 tension mask to a peripheral portion of the tension mask; and

12 a plurality of dummy bridges, each dummy bridge being formed adjacent to a
13 corresponding slot partitioned by a corresponding one of the plurality of real bridges;

14 wherein a value M is obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of
15 the plurality of real bridges by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of
16 dummy bridges, and wherein the value M decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction
17 from the center portion of the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask.

1 8. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 7, ~~further comprising a plurality of dummy bridges~~
3 ~~on the plate~~, each dummy bridge extending from a strip of the plurality of strips on at
4 least one side of a corresponding slot of the plurality of slots in a direction ~~towards~~
5 toward a strip of the plurality of strips on an opposite side of the corresponding slot ~~and~~
6 ~~being formed adjacent to the corresponding slot that is partitioned by a corresponding one~~
7 ~~of the plurality of real bridges.~~

1 9. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 8, ~~further comprised of~~ corresponding dummy
3 bridges of the plurality of dummy bridges adjacent to a corresponding slot of the plurality
4 of slots being in a staggered relation with respect to corresponding dummy bridges of the
5 plurality of dummy bridges adjacent to an opposing slot of the plurality of slots.

1 10. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 8, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask
3 located ~~[[to]]~~ on one side with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical
4 to a corresponding portion of the tension mask located ~~[[to]]~~ on an opposing side with
5 respect to the center of the tension mask.

1 11. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 8, ~~further comprised of~~ opposing side portions of the
3 tension mask located with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical.

1 12. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 8, ~~further comprised of~~ each dummy bridge including
3 a pair of protrusions, each pair of protrusions respectively extending from adjacent strips
4 of the plurality of strips, whereby a corresponding pair of protrusions forming a dummy
5 bridge are disposed in facing relation to each other.

Claim 13. (Canceled)

1 14. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim ~~[[13]]~~ 7, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being in
3 the range of ~~[[from]]~~ $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 15. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim [[13]] 7, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being an
3 integer.

1 16. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim [[13]] 7, ~~further comprised of~~ the tension mask
3 including a plurality of regions, with a region of the plurality of regions having [[a]] the
4 value M ~~obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of real bridges in the~~
5 ~~region by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the dummy bridges in the region and~~
6 having with an adjacent region adjacent to the region of the plurality of regions having a
7 value $M - n_1$ ~~obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of real bridges in~~
8 ~~the adjacent region by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of dummy bridges in the~~
9 ~~adjacent region, with~~ n being a value greater than zero and less than M.

1 17. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 16, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being in the
3 range of [[from]] $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 18. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 7, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask

3 located ~~[[to]]~~ on one side with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical
4 to a corresponding portion of the tension mask located ~~[[to]]~~ on an opposing side with
5 respect to the center of the tension mask.

1 19. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 7, ~~further comprised of~~ the stepwise relation being
3 symmetrical for corresponding portions of the tension mask respectively located on
4 opposing side portions with respect to a center of the tension mask.

1 20. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 7, ~~further comprised of~~ corresponding opposing side
3 portions of the tension mask located with respect to a center of the tension mask being
4 symmetrical.

1 21. (Currently Once Amended) A tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube, comprising:

3 a tension mask including a plurality of strips for forming a plurality of slots
4 isolated from each other on a plate at intervals of a predetermined distance;

5 a plurality of real bridges for respectively partitioning corresponding slots of the
6 plurality of slots at a predetermined pitch interval by connecting adjacent ones of the
7 plurality of strips;

8 a plurality of dummy bridges, each dummy bridge extending from a strip of the
9 plurality of strips on at least one side of a corresponding slot of the plurality of slots in a
10 direction ~~towards~~ toward a strip of the plurality of strips on an opposite side of the
11 corresponding slot and being formed adjacent to the corresponding slot that is defined by
12 a corresponding one of the plurality of real bridges and corresponding adjacent ones of
13 the plurality of strips; and

14 a frame for supporting ~~the corresponding~~ edges of the tension mask, the tension
15 mask being partitioned into a plurality of regions in a direction from a center portion of
16 the tension mask to a peripheral portion of the tension mask, whereby a vertical pitch of
17 corresponding ones of the plurality of real bridges of the tension mask decreases in a
18 stepwise relation in a direction from the center portion of the tension mask to the
19 peripheral portion of the tension mask, with each decrease in the stepwise relation
20 corresponding to a corresponding region of the plurality of regions;

21 wherein a value M is obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of
22 the plurality of real bridges by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of
23 dummy bridges, and wherein the value M decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction
24 from the center portion of the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask.

1 22. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 21, ~~further comprised of~~ each of the plurality of
3 dummy bridges including a pair of protrusions, each said pair of protrusions respectively

4 extending from adjacent strips of the plurality of strips, whereby a corresponding pair of
5 protrusions forming a dummy bridge are disposed in facing relation to each other.

Claim 23. (Canceled)

1 24. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube of claim [[23]] 21, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being in a range of
3 $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 25. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube of claim [[23]] 21, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being an integer.

1 26. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube of claim [[23]] 21, ~~further comprised of~~ a region of the plurality of
3 regions of the tension mask having [[a]] the value M ~~obtained by dividing a vertical pitch~~
4 ~~of corresponding ones of real bridges in the region by a vertical pitch of corresponding~~
5 ~~ones of dummy bridges in the region~~ and having an adjacent region adjacent to the region
6 of the plurality of regions having a value $M-n$, ~~obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of~~
7 ~~corresponding ones of real bridges in the adjacent region by a vertical pitch of~~
8 ~~corresponding ones of dummy bridges in the adjacent region~~, with n being a value greater
9 than zero and less than M.

1 27. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube of claim 26, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being in a range of
3 $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 28 (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 21, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension
3 mask located [[to]] on one side with respect to a center of the tension mask being
4 symmetrical to a corresponding portion of the tension mask located [[to]] on an opposing
5 side with respect to the center of the tension mask.

1 29. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 21, ~~further comprised of~~ the stepwise relation being
3 symmetrical for corresponding portions of the tension mask respectively located on
4 opposing side portions of the tension mask with respect to a center of the tension mask.

1 30. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color
2 cathode ray tube according to claim 21, ~~further comprised of~~ corresponding regions of the
3 plurality of regions respectively located on opposing side portions of the tension mask
4 with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical.

1 31. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask frame assembly for a color

2 cathode ray tube according to claim 21, ~~further comprised of~~ the stepwise relation being
3 symmetrical for corresponding regions of the plurality of regions respectively located on
4 opposing side portions of the tension mask with respect to a center of the tension mask.

1 32. (Currently Once Amended) A tension mask assembly for a color cathode ray
2 tube, comprising:

3 a tension mask formed on a plate, the tension mask including a plurality of strips
4 and including a plurality of slots to separate, by a predetermined distance, corresponding
5 adjacent ones of the plurality of strips; [[and]]

6 a plurality of real bridges for respectively partitioning corresponding slots of the
7 plurality of slots at a predetermined pitch interval by connecting adjacent ones of the
8 plurality of strips, whereby a vertical pitch of the plurality of real bridges in a center
9 portion of the tension mask is greater than a vertical pitch of the plurality of real bridges
10 in a peripheral portion of the tension mask; and

11 a plurality of dummy bridges, each dummy bridge being formed adjacent to a
12 corresponding slot partitioned by a corresponding one of the plurality of real bridges;

13 wherein a value M is obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of
14 the plurality of real bridges by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of
15 dummy bridges, and wherein the value M decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction
16 from the center portion of the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask.

1 33. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 32, ~~further comprising: a plurality of dummy bridges,~~ each
3 dummy bridge extending from a strip of the plurality of strips on at least one side of a
4 corresponding slot of the plurality of slots in a direction ~~towards~~ toward a strip of the
5 plurality of strips on an opposite side of the corresponding slot ~~and being formed adjacent~~
6 ~~to the corresponding slot that is partitioned by a corresponding one of the plurality of real~~
7 ~~bridges.~~

1 34. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 33, ~~further comprised of~~ corresponding dummy bridges of the
3 plurality of dummy bridges adjacent to a corresponding slot of the plurality of slots being
4 in a staggered relation with respect to corresponding dummy bridges of the plurality of
5 dummy bridges adjacent to an opposing slot of the plurality of slots.

1 35. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 33, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask ~~[[to]]~~
3 on one side of a center of the tension mask being symmetrical to a corresponding portion
4 of the tension mask located ~~[[to]]~~ on an opposing side of the center of the tension mask.

1 36. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode

ray tube according to claim 33, ~~further comprised of~~ each dummy bridge including a pair of protrusions, each pair of protrusions respectively extending from adjacent strips of the plurality of strips, whereby a corresponding pair of protrusions forming a dummy bridge are disposed in facing relation to each other.

37. (Currently Once Amended) A tension mask assembly for a color cathode ray tube, comprising:

a tension mask formed on a plate, the tension mask including a plurality of strips and including a plurality of slots to separate, by a predetermined distance, corresponding adjacent ones of the plurality of strips; [[and]]

a plurality of real bridges for respectively partitioning corresponding slots of the plurality of slots at a predetermined pitch interval by connecting adjacent ones of the plurality of strips, whereby a vertical pitch of the plurality of real bridges decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction from a center portion of the tension mask to a peripheral portion of the tension mask; and

a plurality of dummy bridges, each dummy bridge being formed adjacent to a corresponding slot partitioned by a corresponding one of the plurality of real bridges;

wherein a value M is obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of real bridges by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of dummy bridges, and wherein the value M decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction from the center portion of the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask.

1 38. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 37, ~~further comprising a plurality of dummy bridges on the~~
3 ~~plate~~, each dummy bridge extending from a strip of the plurality of strips on at least one
4 side of a corresponding slot of the plurality of slots in a direction ~~towards~~ toward a strip
5 of the plurality of strips on an opposite side of the corresponding slot and being formed
6 adjacent to the corresponding slot that is partitioned by a corresponding one of the
7 plurality of real bridges.

1 39. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 38, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask located
3 ~~[[to]]~~ on one side with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical to a
4 corresponding portion of the tension mask located ~~[[to]]~~ on an opposing side with respect
5 to the center of the tension mask.

1 40. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 38, ~~further comprised of~~ each dummy bridge including a pair
3 of protrusions, each pair of protrusions respectively extending from adjacent strips of the
4 plurality of strips, whereby a corresponding pair of protrusions forming a dummy bridge
5 are disposed in facing relation to each other.

Claim 41. (Canceled)

1 42. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim [[41]] 37, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being in the range
3 of [[from]] $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 43. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 37, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask located
3 [[to]] on one side with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical to a
4 corresponding portion of the tension mask located [[to]] on an opposing side with respect
5 to the center of the tension mask.

1 44. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 37, ~~further comprised of~~ the stepwise relation being
3 symmetrical for corresponding portions of the tension mask respectively located on
4 opposing side portions with respect to a center of the tension mask.

1 45. (Currently Once Amended) A tension mask assembly for a color cathode ray
2 tube, comprising:

3 a tension mask including a plurality of strips for forming a plurality of slots
4 isolated from each other on a plate at intervals of a predetermined distance;

5 a plurality of real bridges for respectively partitioning corresponding slots of the
6 plurality of slots at a predetermined pitch interval by connecting adjacent ones of the
7 plurality of strips; and

8 a plurality of dummy bridges, each dummy bridge extending from a strip of the
9 plurality of strips on at least one side of a corresponding slot of the plurality of slots in a
10 direction ~~towards~~ toward a strip of the plurality of strips on an opposite side of the
11 corresponding slot, and being formed adjacent to the corresponding slot that is defined by
12 a corresponding one of the plurality of real bridges and corresponding adjacent ones of
13 the plurality of strips, the tension mask being partitioned into a plurality of regions in a
14 direction from a center portion of the tension mask to a peripheral portion of the tension
15 mask, whereby a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of real bridges of
16 the tension mask decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction from the center portion of
17 the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask, with each decrease in the
18 stepwise relation corresponding to a corresponding region of the plurality of regions;

19 wherein a value M is obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of
20 the plurality of real bridges by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones of the plurality of
21 dummy bridges, and wherein the value M decreases in a stepwise relation in a direction
22 from the center portion of the tension mask to the peripheral portion of the tension mask.

Claim 46. (Canceled)

1 47. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube of claim ~~[[46]] 45, further comprised of~~ the value M being in a range of $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 48. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube of claim ~~[[46]] 45, further comprised of~~ a region of the plurality of regions of the
3 tension mask having ~~[[a]] the~~ value M ~~obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of~~
4 ~~corresponding ones of real bridges in the region by a vertical pitch of corresponding ones~~
5 ~~of dummy bridges in the region and having an adjacent region adjacent~~ to the region of
6 the plurality of regions having a value $M-n_1$ ~~obtained by dividing a vertical pitch of~~
7 ~~corresponding ones of real bridges in the adjacent region by a vertical pitch of~~
8 ~~corresponding ones of dummy bridges in the adjacent region, with n~~ being a value greater
9 than zero and less than M.

1 49. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube of claim 48, ~~further comprised of~~ the value M being in a range of $3 \leq M \leq 29$.

1 50. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 45, ~~further comprised of~~ a portion of the tension mask located
3 ~~[[to]] on~~ one side with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical to a
4 corresponding portion of the tension mask located ~~[[to]] on~~ an opposing side with respect
5 to the center of the tension mask.

1 51. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 45, ~~further comprised of~~ the stepwise relation being
3 symmetrical for corresponding portions of the tension mask respectively located on
4 opposing side portions of the tension mask with respect to a center of the tension mask.

1 52. (Currently Once Amended) The tension mask assembly for a color cathode
2 ray tube according to claim 45, ~~further comprised of~~ corresponding regions of the
3 plurality of regions respectively located on opposing side portions of the tension mask
4 with respect to a center of the tension mask being symmetrical.